

REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Office Action dated March 17, 2009, which this Reply is filed within the one month shortened statutory period for reply. Claims 1-59 were pending in the application and the Examiner states that the claims are subject to restriction action and election requirement. Applicants cancel claims 23 – 45 and 52 - 59. No new matter is added in this Reply. Reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.

The Examiner asserts a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 requiring restriction of the application as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-22 and 46-51, drawn to a substrate cutting system with a substrate supporting device.
- Group II: Claims 1, 22-29 and 48-51, drawn to a substrate cutting system with a substrate steam unit and drying means.
- Group III: Claims 1, 22, 23, 31-38, 41, 45 and 48-51, drawn to a substrate cutting system with a substrate steam unit and carryout device.
- Group IV: Claims 1, 22, 39-44 and 48-51, drawn to a substrate cutting system with a positioning unit section.
- Group V: Claims 52-59, drawn to a method of cutting a substrate.

Applicants elect Group I, consisting of Claims 1-22 and 46-51, for prosecution in this application. Applicants select Group I in order to expedite prosecution of this application.

The Examiner has asserted an Election Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring election of a single disclosed species and identified two (2) species groups in the Office Action:

Species A: Representative of Figure 1

Species B: Representative of Figure 43

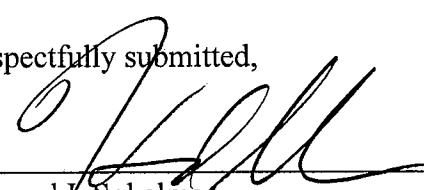
Applicants hereby elect Species A, Representative of Figure 1, and Applicants assert that all remaining claims (claims 1 - 22 and 46 - 51) are readable on the elected species. Applicants have selected the Species A in order to expedite prosecution of this application.

Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's foundation for the Restriction and Election Requirements as set forth in the Office Action. Accordingly, the foregoing elections are made without waiver, estoppel or without prejudice to the filing of one or more related applications directed to the subject matter of canceled claims 23 – 45 and 52 - 59.

The foregoing amendments conforms this application to the Examiner's Restriction and Election Requirement dated March 17, 2009. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due or refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2814, including extension of time fees, if needed.

Dated: April 3, 2009

Respectfully submitted,


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